(c) if so, whether the Government propose to provide First Class Coaches with each and every train from which these had been detached during the past few years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : Indian Railways are running about 3800 Suburban trains in 5 Cities and of these, trains in Delhi, Calcutta and Secunderabad do not carry first class accommodation. On non-suburban sector, about 3950 trains are running and of these, only a few trains carry first class accommodation are voluminous and are not readily available.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) In order to carry more number of passengers per train and per coach in more comfort and as a measures of coping with growth in traffic, railways had stopped manufacturing First Class Coaches. Instead, AC 2 tier and AC 3 tier coaches are already being provided in more and more trains.

Replacement of Bogies

1508. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted for alloting new bogies to replace the existing old bogies of the long distance trains on a priority basis; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Coaches are allotted to the Zonal Railways on the basis of requirement. New Coaches are utilised on premier trains and it is a continuous process carried out in a phased manner. During 1995-96, about 15 pairs of long distance Mail/Express trains were provided with new coaches.

Stoppage at New Bongaigaon

1509. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Saraighat Express from Howrah does not have any stoppage at New Bongaigaon station;

(b) whether there is demand for stoppage of the train at New Bongaigaon; and

(c) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Examined but not found feasible.

[Translation]

Halt at Bariyarpur

1510. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposals for halt of Mujjafarpur-Bhagalpur City Express at Bariyarpur Station on Eastern Railway for providing two AC sleepers and four second class sleepers in Vikramshila, and reservation of quota for two A.C. sleepers and two second class sleepers in Farakka Express have been approved; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to implement to said proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Instructions have been given to Eastern Railway to provide an additional quota of two sleeper class berths at Bariarpur Station by Vikramshila/Magadh Express. Due to limited availability of reserved accommodation and full utilisation of quotas at the existing quota holding stations, there is no proposal at present to allot A.C. Sleeper quota by this train and also additional sleeper class quota by Farakka Express train.

[English]

Construction Activities in Coastal Areas

1511. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has banned construction activities in the Coastal areas within 500 metres of the high water mark;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the court has also directed the Union Government to set up a National Coastal Management Authority as an apex body to monitor the action of Coastal Management Bodies at the State level;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) In the order dated 18th April, 1996 in civil writ petition No. 664 of 1993, the Supreme Court has directed that pending finalisation of Coastal Zone Management Plans (CZMPs), interim orders passed by the court on 12.12.1994 and 09.03.1995 shall continue to operate. In the interim order dated 12.12.1994, the Court has directed all the coastal States/Union Territories not to permit the setting up of any industry or construction of any type in the area at least upto 500 metres from the sea water at the maximum High Tide Line. But, subsequently in another interim order dated 09.03.1995 the court has modified